

# Driver of Auto in Fatal Crash Cited for Manslaughter

## CITY DROPS PLAN TO CLOSE PLANT

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## Chlorine Bottling Company To Remain

Plans of the city to close down the local plant of the John Wiley Jones Co. were dropped following a lengthy hearing before the City Council Tuesday evening.

Officials of the firm, represented before the Council by Attorney Walt Anderson, guaranteed that operation of the chlorine bottling plant at 1904 1/2 Border Ave. now is such that nearby residents will not be bothered by fumes.

The Council moved last month to revoke the business license of the firm after escaping chlorine gas had routed residents living near the plant.

Major overhaul of the plant has been in progress during the past month and many of the dangerous situations found by city inspectors have been corrected, the councilmen were told.

Anderson also told the Council that the firm was in the process of negotiating for another factory site and that the company plans to cease operation at the present site not later than the end of 1955.

The hearing Tuesday before the Council lasted nearly an hour and one-half.

## D. A. Issues Complaint on Manslaughter

A complaint charging felonious manslaughter was issued last Wednesday against Raymond C. Nystull, 36, of 1776 Calamar St. It was announced this week.

The complaint issued by the district attorney's office charges Nystull with being criminally responsible for the death of Mrs. Lou Dell Anderson, 54, of 924 Flint Ave., Wilmington.

Mrs. Anderson died Monday of injuries suffered in a crash on Dec. 14 at Pacific Coast Hwy. and Alameda St. Her husband and six other persons were hurt in the crash involving two cars and a school bus containing 58 children.

Police claim a car driven by Nystull was going at excessive speed and failed to heed a stop light.

## Census Swells City's Purse

The special census conducted in Torrance recently will boost the city's state gasoline tax allocation for the latter half of the current fiscal year by about \$20,000, according to the State Division of Motor Vehicles.

City Manager George Stevens estimates that, in addition, Torrance will receive about \$40,000 more in allocations from auto license registration fees during the coming year.

## Firm May Settle Out of Court in Row With City

The Property Management Corp. has indicated a willingness to settle out of court on a court action filed by the City of Torrance charging that the firm failed to install sidewalks along 174th St. in a tract it developed about three years ago.

City Attorney James M. Hall has been directed to meet with attorneys of the firm, who have shown willingness to settle the long-standing dispute without litigation.

## Holiday Spirit

# 12 Celebrants Eat Christmas Dinner in City's Drunk Tank

## County Jails 140 For Drunk Driving

An even dozen who celebrated Christmas Eve and Christmas with too much spirit were booked into the Torrance jail during the holiday, it was announced yesterday by Assistant Chief of Police Willard H. Haslam.

Torrance police arrested nine for drunk driving, seven of them on Christmas Eve, Chief Haslam said. The other three were booked as common drunks.

Otherwise, the holiday was apparently spent quietly as far as the police were concerned. No fatal accidents were reported and only minor collisions marred the blitter over the holiday.

In the county, 140 persons were arrested for drunk driving, most of them in Los Angeles. Los Angeles also reported 243 accidents with 131 persons treated for injuries.

**Nationwide Toll**  
Nationwide, the traffic toll of the long weekend was soaring toward an all-time high by yesterday afternoon.

A list compiled by the National Safety Council showed that 255 deaths in traffic mishaps reported for the first 39 hours after 6 p.m. Christmas Eve.

Christmas holiday traffic death toll in California amounted to 33 yesterday and threatened to go higher as many travelers were expected to use the highways last night and today.

Southern California recorded 18 fatalities, 15 of them in traffic accidents. Northern California tallied 15 deaths, 13 of them in traffic.

**\$30 Million in Building Value Almost Sure Bet**  
Torrance gave every indication of hitting the unclaimed \$30,000,000 mark in building valuation for 1953 and setting an all-time record this month.

Permits issued thus far in December have pushed the total for '53 over the \$29,230,000 mark and city officials were confident that permits issued during the last week of the year would push the total over \$30,000,000.

Included in the \$2,950,000 in permits signed this month was a permit issued to Sanford Homes for 74 houses in North Torrance, valued at \$740,000. It is expected that a permit will be issued to General Petroleum Corp. before the year is out for additions valued at about \$300,000.

Walter C. Bradford of the City Building Department said that the city is waiting for checks on permits for a 40-home tract at 3506 W. 224th St. valued at more than \$240,000. Other permits also are expected.

Last year's total of \$18,487,000 broke numerous records and was the all-time high for Torrance through the month of August of this year.

Through the month of November, \$26,280,000 in permits had been issued, including permits for more than 4000 buildings.

## Torrance School Enrollment Near 10,000 Students

More than 9400 children were enrolled in Torrance schools on Dec. 15, and more than 1000 were enrolled in each of the three lowest grades, kindergarten, first, and second, it was revealed yesterday by Dr. J. H. Hull, superintendent of schools.

The North Torrance school led elementary enrollments with a total of 1325 pupils, the report indicated. Some of these students will be transferred to the Evelyn Carr school when it opens next month.

Torrance Elementary School downtown had an enrollment of 1177 and the Fern Ave. school showed an enrollment of 902.

Torrance High School showed an enrollment of 1581. Total enrollment of all schools was 9410.

Enrollment by grades was as follows:

Kindergarten	1282
First	1012
Second	1098
Third	856
Fourth	812
Fifth	806
Sixth	688
Seventh	652
Eighth	566
Ninth	531
Tenth	483
Eleventh	338
Twelfth	229

An additional 87 students were accounted for in home classes, special classes, and in continuation classes.

Enrollment by schools was reported as follows:

High School	1581
North Torrance	1325
Torrance Elem.	1177
Fern	902
Perry	837
Seaside	833
Walteria	688
Riviera	618
Madrona	490
Crenshaw	397
El Nido	225

Completion of the Howard A. Wood Elementary School early next year will relieve much of the pressure at Torrance Elementary School. Dr. Hull indicated. The completion of the Carr School, scheduled to be occupied about Jan. 19, will improve the crowded conditions at North Torrance Elementary. Additions are being planned for Walteria and Riviera schools, and a new school near 230th St. and Hawthorne will be opened next month or in February.

## Coming Events

New Year's Eve—Sportsmen's Dance, Riviera Beach Club.  
New Year's Eve—American Legion Dance, Legion Hall, 9 p.m.

Monday, Jan. 4—School resumes all Torrance schools.  
Jan. 6, 9—Adult Basketball League Opens.  
Torrance High School Boys Gym, 7 p.m.  
Thursday, Jan. 28—Chamber of Commerce Installation dinner, Civic Auditorium, "Chuck Watson" dinner.



**SANTA BY JEEP**... Jim Dandy's Santa Claus helped load groceries aboard the Legion jeep and trailer for distribution to needy families in the area. Eight baskets with groceries and toys valued at \$40 were donated by the Legion, Jim Dandy Markets, and Love-Lady Hardware. Loading up, left to right, are Gordon Arnold, Legion commander; L. E. "Shorty" Modeland, manager of the Torrance-Crenshaw Jim Dandy; and Vernon Coll, service officer of the Legion. (Herald photo)

## 103-Year-Old Man Dies After Attack While Chopping Wood

John William Tucker, who claimed that he was 103 years old while his relatives said that he was only a boy of 93, died Tuesday following a heart attack suffered while he was chopping wood in his back yard.

The centenarian succumbed on the way to Harbor General Hospital, where he was being taken following the attack. While his driver's license and death report list his year of birth as 1850, Tucker's relatives say that he was 93 years old, which would still place his year of birth prior to the beginning of the Civil War.

Tucker was born in Downey, Calif., and had lived in Torrance for many years. Funeral services were conducted Thursday at Stone and Myers Mortuary and interment followed at Roosevelt Cemetery.

Tucker had lived at 2220 1/2 W. 231st St., where he was chopping wood when stricken with the heart attack. His survivors are a son, Jack Tucker, of 1740 Arlington Ave.; two daughters, Annie Wilson of 2230 W. 231st St., and Jule Clifford, of Avenue.

## Stop Signs Ordered in Keystone School Area

Boulevard stop signs will be placed on 234th St. and Moneta Ave. following the action of Supervisor Burton W. Chace Tuesday.

On Chace's recommendation, the Board of Supervisors ordered stop signs on 234th St. at its intersection with Mehden Ave. and Moneta Ave. Stop signs will be placed on each side of Moneta Ave. at its intersections with 254th St.

Chace's action was in answer to a request of the Los Angeles City Board of Education for such traffic signs to protect school children in the district, the supervisor announced.

## WEATHER

Yes, it has been cold. The mercury dipped to a frigid 33 degrees Friday morning and plunged to an icy, sub-freezing 31 yesterday morning. More of the same is expected this morning.

## Rites Held for J. Worthington

James Porter Worthington, 60, a resident of Torrance for 24 years, died on Christmas Eve at Torrance Memorial Hospital and funeral mass was to be held yesterday at the Church of the Nativity, conducted by Father Bernard J. Gannon.

Worthington, who lived at 2424 Andrea Ave. with his daughter, Mrs. Lucile Gannon and grandson James, was employed as a meat cutter in a market in Harbor City.

Rosary was held at Stone and Myers Mortuary on Christmas night. Interment followed the mass and was held at Holy Cross Cemetery.

Besides his daughter and grandson, Worthington is survived by another daughter, Loretta Schnelldoerfer of Phoenix, Ariz., and grandson Joseph Schnelldoerfer, also of Phoenix.

## Trial Date Corrected

Trial date for operators of the Torrance Sand and Gravel Co., who are accused of violation of the city's "Kathy Fiscus" ordinance, has been reset to Jan. 26 and not Dec. 26 as reported in Thursday's edition of the Torrance Herald.



**SCOUT TRIP**... Three Cub Scouts from Torrance, Ronald, Mike and Jerry Murakami, of 1529 Sepulveda, were among a group of Cubs from Dens two and nine, Pack 473, who toured Fort MacArthur recently. Above, the boys examine a functional training model of a jeep at the U. S. Army Reserve Training Center.

## Moose Slate Observance for New Year's Eve

The annual New Year's Eve party presented by the Loyal Order of Moose will start at 9 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 31, at the lodge hall, 1744 Carson St. James Stiles, ways and means committee chairman, announced this week.

An orchestra will provide music for dancing until 2 a.m. The appointment of James Baudin to the position of membership committee chairman was announced this week by Daniel Desmond, governor of the local lodge of the Loyal Order of Moose.

Baudin will take over the reins of an important lodge committee from Harry T. Green.

South Central District of the California Moose Assn. will hold a Governor's and Secretary breakfast meeting at the Torrance lodge of the Loyal Order of Moose, 1744 Carson St., Sunday Jan. 10 at 9:30 a.m. Joseph Platt, district vice-president, announced this week.